"wht at this house was for the first time pro-

WALLACK'S THEATER.

berely the destruction of the Republican party as a political organization; it is the renunciation of the great truths, and the abjuration of the eacred obligations on which that party is based. Whoever now proposes to make new compmises with Slavery-that is to say, real, and not sham compromises-proposes, more or less completely, to surrender the Territories to that accursed and pernicious institution, and virtually if not explicitly to admit that slaves are property which no State can rightfully exclude.

This it is that is meant by sacrificing party interests; and however these gentlemen of Chicago, who have heretofore left politics to others, may think about it, we can tell them that the intelligent masses of the country, sincere Democrats as well as sincere Republicans, regard the proposal of such a sacrifice with mingled alarm and scorn -Republicans because they will not disgrace their country and themselves by forswearing their principles; Democrate because they, too, desire to have it proved that there is a North, and that Freedom can be as firm as Slavery can be jusolent and aggressive.

Some of the friends of the People's College complain of our opposition to their attempt to get money for it from the State Treasury. reply, let us call their attention to the following declaration of opinion put forth not many years ago by a meeting of those interested in founding

"Resolved, That, without enunciating any abstract principles on this subject, we unanimously reiterate our deliberate and full ponviotion that State endowments for colleges and high schools are utterly inexpedient in a community like ours, leading, as Shey have hitherto done, to favoritism in the distribution of some able to educate themselves or their children, thus throwing it out of its leglitmate channel—the education of the whole people."

This seemed to us a laudable resolution at the time. We think it is equally wise and equally cogent now; and we trust that for once the Legislature will agree with us.

The following anecdote, which originally appeared in The Daily Advertiser of Boston, we had not supposed to be perfectly authentic; as it is repeated in The Albany Econing Journal, sve presume there can no longer be any doubt as to its correctness, and we copy it accordingly:

"The pressure has been very strong on the Republicans to yield to something like Mr. Crittenden's measures, but it is of po use. When people press Gov. Seward to yield to this, in order to save the country, he replies: "Gontlemen, you think I can save the country by sacrificing myself. Suppose I were to save the country as you wish, I should have put an end to my power for good or evil forever. I shall have to go back to A. bern and anuse myself with writing history for the rest of m I am not so blind to experience as to suppose that I can both exciling myself and remain leader at the same time. Now, do you want me to retire from public life? The asswer is, of course, 'No, Governor, we can't do without you.' 'Then,' re turns he, 'you must let me save the Union in my own way.'

The great military authority of the Southern Confederacy is Gen. Jefferson Davis; its great ecclesiastical authority is the Rev. Dr. Thornwell of Charleston, S. C. Gen. Davis says that the coming war, if there is a war, will be fought on Northern soil, which will be invaded by Southern hosts. Dr. Thornwell on the other hand says that the South will be "the invaded party, and that her institutions are likely to gain strength "from the conflict." The General does not seem to share the confidence of the divine in Southern Institutions, or in the advantage they are likely to wain from war with the United States.

THE LATEST NEWS. RECEIVED BY

MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

From Washington.

Special Dispatches to The N. Y. Tribuue

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Feb. 14, 1861.

MR. WILKINSON'S SPEECH. Mr. Wilkinson of Minnesota made refreshing and excellent remarks on the crisis to-day in the Senate, which were flatterinely received, and extolled by nearly all the Republican Senators present.

THE TARIFF.

Mr. Hunter spoke at length against the tariff, and received some sharp retorts from Mr. Shnmons after he concluded.

THE COMPROMISERS. The Compromisers' Convention are likely to get

a small majority in favor of Slavery extension. but I am not aware that that scheme grows in favor in Republican circles, unless an inference to that effect can be drawn from a remark made go-day by Thaddeus Stevens. He said he continued to be opposed to all compromises, but he had several colleagues who were melting away From the neck to the os cocygis. J. S. P. WASHINGTON, Thursday, Feb 14, 1861.

THE KANSAS CLAIMS.

Mr. Tappan will report a bill at the first opportunity for the appointment of three Commisoners, to be selected by the President, to examne and adjudicate the claims of citizens of Kansas against the United States for losses and depredations during the civil disturbances there. It will be accompanied by a voluminous report, presenting a condensed history of the outrages in years 1855-6. The Committee have investigated over four hundred cases, which were submitted to the commission raised by the Kansas Legislature.

THE CONSPIRACY IN WASHINGTON. Mr. Howard presented the report from the special Committee in regard to the secret organiestion in this District. In order to make it tinanimous, the Republican members waived sevpral points which would have been pressed under other circumstances, and there was no disagreement when it was submitted in Committee. Much surprise was, therefore, exwited when Mr. Branch offered a minority statement to-day, accompanied by a resolution recommending the withdrawal of troops from the Capitol. Mr. Dawes effectively exposed the vement by reference to the proceedings, and pertinently asking if the report was unanimous, is had not been disputed, how there could be any minority views. Mr. Branch failed to extrihate himself from this awkward dilemma, and, after considerable fillibustering on the Demopratic side, his resolution was voted down by bearly four to one.

MR. PLOYD'S ACCEPTANCES.

No acceptances were ever issued by the War Department until Mr. Floyd introduced that fraudulent system. Most of those out were disounted for nearly the full sum borne on the see of the drafts. Most of the banks of New-England and the interior were victimized to creater or less extent, and many Savings Intitutions have suffered largely. In many uses Mr. Floyd personally assured the parties they would be paid at maturity, and that he service accepted for one half the service actually rendered by the contractors. The President is greatly consured for

omitting to investigate this audacious system of plunder, after being informed by Mr. Benjamin of its general character, and having known Mr. Floyd's previous repute. A serious question may arise as to the responsibility of the Government for these acceptances in the hands of innocent holders. They are all officially issued, and to make desention more successful, numbers were omitted from the drafts as they increased in magnitude and quantity, so that they might be mistaken for original and single transactions. It is stated that Mr. Floyd sent, on two occasions, by Adams's Express to New-York sums of

\$50,000 and \$75,000 on his individual account. While he was Governor of Virginia, two Investigating Committees were raised to investigate imputations connected with the disposal of funds

Mr. Holt has notified Mr. Drinkard, Chief Clerk of the War Department under Mr. Floyd, that his services would be dispensed with. The manner in which his name figured in connection with Mesers. Russell and Bailey, made this inevitable whenever the Committee reported. Mr. Potts, formerly Chief Clerk under Mr. Conrad. has been appointed to the vacancy temperarily.

THE LOAN BILL. It is proposed in some quarters to reduce the denominations of coupen bonds under the Amendatory Loan bill, to \$10, in order to counteract combinations of capitalists, and give them a form of convenient circulation and exchange. Such

issues would bring the banks to their senses. FORT SUMTER.

Plans have been organized here to reënforce Fort Sumter whenever it may be deemed necessarv, but, under the present phase of Southern affairs, this contingency will probably not arise soon. It is known positively that Jefferson Davis has recently stated that Forts Pickens and Sumter were not worth the loss of life that must be incurred under the most favorable circumstances, even if the attacks succeed. Now that South Carolina has her point of honor relieved by the action of the Montgomery Convention, no demonstration is expected, and Major Anderson feels no apprehension whatever. He is fully prepared, and is now abundantly supplied with pro-

FORT TORTUGAS.

Reënforcements started to-day for Tortugas, and others have have been ordered from Texas to that and the neighboring forts. In a short time all the points commanding the Gulf of Mexico will be strongly garrisoned and beyond the reach of any force the Revolutionists can

The Court Martial on Commodore Armstrong will meet to-morrow. Lieut, Gilman, who was at Fort Pickens, and had several interviews with him before the disgraceful surrender of the Navy-Yard, is detained to testify in this case. The disclosures since the return of marine and other officers from Pensacola, are very unfavorable to Commodore Armstrong, and give an entirely different version from his statement before the Special Committee. He ordered the Supply and Wyandotte to sail, and it was with great difficulty the latter was detained to aid in the defense of the Fort.

THE MARYLAND CONTESTED SEAT. Mr. McKnight will report unanimously, from the Committee on Elections, in favor of the right of Morrison Harris of Maryland to his seat,

which has been nominally contested.

MR. STANTON ON MR. COX. Mr. Stanton of Ohio administered a scathing rebuke to Mr. Cox for interpolating in his reported speech of Saturday a gross attack on Mr. Giddings, not a word of which had been uttered on the floor. He deprecated the unwarrantable practice in justly severe terms, and while disagreeing with the extreme ideas of Mr. Giddings. testified to his integrity, worth, and sincerity, which had already been admitted by Southern ventlemen.

THE PACIFIC RAILROAD.

Mr. Craig's amendment to the Pacific Railroad is considered as jeopardizing its success. The President has intimated his willingness to sign the House bill with the two roads, but will veto it with three, if adopted.

MR. CAMPBELL'S SPEECH.

Mr. Campbell made a strong and effective speech for the Union, and against holding any terms with the traitors who had conspired for the overthrow of the Government. It attracted much attention on the floor and in the galleries, and he was generally congratulated.

THE DISTRICT MILITIA.

Mr. Holt issued a large number of commissions to-day for the militia of this District, which will be organized on a sound and efficient basis.

Washisoron, Thursday, Feb. 14, 1861.

Dr. Leverett Bradley of New-York, the inventor and patentee of important improvements in telegraphing, is now here to oppose any special legislation extending the Morse patent, claiming that it would have the effect of preventing the public from enjoying the advantages of improvements which would reduce the cost of telegraphing fifty per cent on the present rates, and increase the facilities of transmitting matter to fourfold the amount now sent, and on the ground that fourfold the amount now sent, and on the ground that may extension would, while injuring the public, only benefit a company which has a monopoly. The memo-rial for the Morse extension will be opposed by a coun-

rad for the Morse extension will be opposed by a counter memorial.

In the Peace Convention to-day, Mesers. Chase and Ewing of Ohio, Wickliffe of Kentucky, Loomis of Pennsylvania, and Rives of Virginia. delivered addresses consequent on the death of Judge Wright. They were in a high degree culogistic of the deceased, and abounded in patriotic sentiments.

The House Committee on Post-Offices and Post Roads will consider, next Tucsday, the Farnsworth bill, declaring all railroad bridges post routes. Mesers-Farnsworth and Quarles will appear before the Committee to advocate it, and Messrs. Washburne (III.) and Olin to oppose it.

The estimates of the Engineer Department are for all the forts, omitting those south of Chesapeake Bay,

The estimates of the Engineer Department are for all the forts, omitting those south of Chesapeake Bay, with the exception of Calhom, Virginia, and Taylor and Jefferson, Florida.

The Congressional Committee to inform the President and Vice-President elect of their election consists of Mr. Trumbull on the part of the Senate and Mesers. Washburne (Ill.) and Burlingame on the part of the

Washburne (III.) and Burlingame on the part of the House.

Senator Rice of Minnesota communicated to the Government promptly and fully all which came to his knowledge concerning the abstraction of the Indian Trust bonds and acceptances by Gov. Floyd, for the best possible motives, and in no other way was he connected with the matter.

Mesus Pryor, Edwards, and Maynard, compose the Special Committee of the House to inquire into the truth of the allegation that certain Southern members from the secoding States, have abstracted books from the Library of Congress to form a library for the Southern Confederation.

The appropriation bills have been reported with the usual items, under the existing laws, without reference to the secession movements. There is no appropriation for the branch mint at Dahlonega, that institution being considered useless, and for years past has had little more than a nominal existence.

Licut. Sayre of Alabama, of the marine corps, resigned his commission to-day, and will return home. The Pacific mails to the Navy Department brought no intelligence in regard to the missing aloop-of-war Levant, from which no tidings have been received since last September.

Dispatches from Flag-Officer Bell of the Mediterranean Squaeron says, under the date of the 17th of January, that eighteen American voscels were lying at

Messina, and others expected. The presence of the steam sloop Richmond caused not only great satisfaction to our countrymen engaged in commerce, but to the inhabitants themselves, and Mr. Bell says he be-lieves it will add to their security, and aid in preventing a collision between the Neapolitan and Sardinian

Peace Conference Committee is still engaged upon a plan of conciliation.

Several States having conceded since Mr. Nekean's bill to close the ports of South Carolina was introduced, John Cochrane of the Committee to which it was referred, has reported a our applicable to all

NEW · YORK LEGISLATURE

SENATE....ALBANY, Feb. 14, 1861.

A large number of bills, mainly of local interest, were reported favorably upon by Committees.

The bill to incorporate the veterans of the National Gnard (7th Regiment) passed.

Mr. CONNOLLY moved a requisition for a report from the Long Island Railroad Company of all its

siness, stockholders, &c., stating as a reason for ering the resolution that the officers of the road had refused to show the books to stockholders. Ad

The resolution of the Assembly appointing Francis Granger Commissioner to Washington, in place of Thurlow Weed, was called up, and, on motion of Mr. TRUMAN, laid on the table—15 to 13.

TRUMAN, laid on the table—15 to 13.

Mr. SESSIONS introduced a bill to repeal the law relative to the publication of legal notices.

Mr. PROSSER brought in a bill setting apart the unexpected amount of the canal enlargement. Appropriation of 1860—first, to pay for work and materials, and to so far complete the Oswego, and Cayaga, and Senera Canals as to fit them in on ire length for seven feet depth of water on open navigation in Spring, 1861; and, next, to lengthen the locks of said canal. If no surplus genains for the latter work, then Gibson T. and, next, it lengthen the locks of said canal. If no surplus remains for the latter work, then Gibson T. Williams, Henry Sage, John W. Thompson, Delos Dewolf, E. G. Spaulding, and Joseph Field are appointed a Commission to lengthen the locks, and self the long locks to the State; or, if the State refuse to purchase them, authorizing them to collect lockage toll on all boots over 100 feet for 20 years.

EVENING SESSION.

EVENING SESSION.

The bill to extend the time for the collection of taxes in Oneida County and the bill relating to divorces were each ordered to a third reading.

Progress was reported on the bill to amend the charter of the New York Life Insurance Company.

The Governor's Annual Message was taken up, and Mr. COLVIN concluded his speech, attacking the poditions of Gov. Morgan in relation to the vetoed rail-ind bills of last session.

The resolutions to investigate the action of the Harbor-Masters of New-York, were taken up.

Mr. GRANT spoke in favor of the investigation.

The subject was then posiponed till the next Executive Session. Adjourned.

ASSEMBLY.

ASSEMBLY.

The Assembly was occupied during the whole session in perfecting the Appropriation bill, an amendment being proposed to insert the customary appropriation for hospitals.

hospitals.
A long debate ensued.
The vote defeating the bill appropriating \$100,000 for the relief of μhe Kansas sufferers was reconsidered, or the relief of the Kansas salierers was reconsidered, and the bill recommitted to the Committee of the Vhole, to be taken up this evening, after the Approsintion bill is completed.

Mr. WOODRUFF introduced bills to provide for a

tax on New-York City, to pay each member of the Common Council for 1858 and 1859 \$1,200 a year for To appropriate \$35,000 out of the State Treasury to

the Hebrew Orphan Asylum of New-York City, for a building, as soon as \$20,000 has been expended by the leg lize the acts of the Common Council of New York, calative to filling up the lots on the south side of Fifty-fifth street, between Tenth and Eleventh

Mr. WEBSTER brought in a bill making the term of office of the Chamberlain of New-York the same as the Controller's, and subjecting him to removal only for maleasance, and by the same process as required for the removal of the Controller or Corporation

Recess till 7 o'clock.

The House agreed to hold evening sessions on Toesday and Thursday evenings of each week.

The House resumed the consideration of the Annual Appropriation bill, but did not conclude, and the bill

The Kansas Appropriation for Seturday.

Mr. FERRY proposed an appropriation Mr. FERRY proposed an amendment, to loan \$100,000 to Kausas, which, after a long debate, was The bill was then amended by entting down the ap-

propriation to \$50,000, and then passed, by Year, 88 Nays, 22. Adjourned at 11 p. m.

The Virginia State Convention.

RICHNOND, Va., Thursday, Feb. 14, 1861 The State Convention is now in session. The day has been devoted to completing an organization.

The credentials of the Commissioners, John S. Pres ton of South Carolina, Fulton Anderson of Mississippi and H. L. Berning of Georgia, were received, and a Committee appointed to invite them to seats, and notify them of their readiness to receive communications. Adjourned.

The Committee is going to work quite leisurely, though much feeling prevails relative to future action, which depends mainly on proceedings at Washington.

The Montgomery Convention.

MONTGOMERY, Thursday, Feb. 14, 4861. In the Convention to-day six model flags were presented and referred.

The remainder of the time was passed in secret

North Carolina Legislature.

RALEIGH, Thursday, Feb. 14, 1861. The Senate has been on the military bill yesterday and to-day, but it is not yet through. The House pass ed several railroad bills, and others are pending. The House has just received the Minnesota res

tions, embodying the doctrine of coercion. They were indignantly received, and will be returned whence they

No day for adjournment has yet been agreed upon but will probably adjourn next week.

Committee to Meet Mr. Lincoln.

BUFFALO, Thursday, Feb. 14, 1861. Governor Morgan has detailed Commissary-General Welch, Adjutant-General Reed, Inspector-General Jackson, Quartermaster-General Van Vechten, and Colonel Morgan, Aid-de-Camp, to meet Mr. Lincoln here and escort him to Albany. Gen. Welch arrived here to-day in advance of his associates, who will join him to-morrow, and make the necessary arrangements.

Movements of Jeff. Davis.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Thursday, Feb. 14, 1861. The Hen. Jefferson Davis, the President of the Southern Confederacy, will leave Jackson, Mississippi, this evening for this city. He comes via Chattanooga and Atlanta. His inauguration takes place on Mon-

The Palmetto Fing at Shippensburg, Pa.

SHIPPENSBURG, Pa., Thursday, Feb. 14, 1861. A mammoth Palmetto fing suspended from the tele graph wire startled the Union-loving citizens of this clace this morning. Three prominent Secessionists are suspected of perpetrating the outrage. The flag was instantly demolished.

Serenade to Gov. Wise.

Gov. Wise was screeneded to-night. An immense crowd congratulated him. Subsequently, in a speech, he said he was for Virginia fast, but if she sided with aggression he was against her. He pronounced as false and infamous the report that he ever contemplated the invasion of Washington to prevent the inauguration of Mr. Lincola. He was severe on President Buchanan and General Scott.

He deprecated civil was by

nd General Scott.

He deprecated civil war, but counseled active preparation to resist coercion. He was for the Union and aration to resist coercion. He was for the Union and Constitution, but would never submit to a Northern Confederacy. He believed if Virginis would take a figurestand, and do her duty fathfully, all will yet be well. She should demand of the Government to vacate the forte and arsenals, and stand as mediator between the North and South.

Loss of Brig James Madison. Charles G. Morton, mate of the brig James Madison, was picked up at sea clinging to a spar, and brought to this city. The body of the captain was found on Hinwath Beach and buried by the Volunteers stationed on that island. Movements of Mr. Lincoln.

PITTSBURGH, Thursday, Feb. 14, 1861. Pittsburgh train four hours behind time. Report about Lincoln will come too late.

From Kausas.

GREAT DISTRESS OF THE SETTLERS IN SOUTH WESTERN KANSAS-SUFFERING OF THE RE-LIEF MEN AND TEAMS ON THE ROAD-HOS-THAT'S OF THE INDIANS-TWO OF THE SET-ATCHISON, Thursday, Feb. 14, 1861.

A messenger from Hunter County, distant about 200 miles from here, arrived last night with heartrending tales of the suffering for want of food and clothing in the extreme South-Western part of the State. He reports the Winter as being the most severe yet experi enced in Southern Kansas. Snow has fallen to the depth of eighteen inches on a evel. The cold is intense, and stock of all descriptions is dying off with fearful rapidity. Most of the inhabit-

ants are reduced to buffalo most alone, and not a team

is able to make the journey through the snow. The messenger walked twenty-six miles before finding a track after leaving the settlement, and 70 miles before reaching Emporia, where he took a stage and came on The mails on the route had not been carried through for three weeks. Owing to the great depth of the snow and the interse cold, horses and cattle are dying along the route. Goods were abandoned in the middle of the prairies. The teams had died or given out, or

had to seek refuge at the nearest settlement to save their lives. One man will lose both of his less and another both

the limbs of the drivers had become frozen, and they

of his hands. The Osage Indians had attacked a party of the settlers, who were hunting wolves for their skins. The Indians killed two of the settlers; one they burned and beheaded, the other they scalped.

The messenger makes the most ungent appeals for teams and ample supplies to be immediately forwarded, which will be done without delay, as the Relief Committee are determined that as long as their means hold out that none shall die for lack of food.

Urgent appeals are made from the extreme North-Western settlements for aid to be sent them, as they report that their trains are in such a condition that it is impossible for them to make the trip. A man sent in from the Blue lost one of his horses from weakness on the road, and the other was unable to go.

Teams loaded with supplies were immediately dispatched by the Committee, as the man reported many nilies with only a scanty supply of Buffalo ment left God only knows what the end will be if the reports brought in from the destitute settlements are true.

Relief must be sent at once. It is terrible to witness the distressing cases of suffering which are constantly brought to light.

Michigan and the Virginia Conference.

DETROIT, Thursday, Feb. 14, 1861.

DETROIT, Thursday, Feb. 14, 1861.

Gov. Blair sent a Message into the Legislature todny, accompanying which was the joint resolutions of
the New-York and Indiana Legislatures, for the
appointment of Commissioners to the Washington
Peace Convention. He says:

"Being aware of the previous action of the Legislature upon this subject, I have hesitated before calling
attention to it, but it seems to me that the circumstances affecting the propriety of sending the Commissionors are so far changed as to justify further consideration
of the question." It was believed that the Legislature
would reconsider its action, and that Commissioners
would be appointed to-day.

Non-Arrival of the North American, PORTLAND, Thursday, Feb. 14-11 p. m. from Liverpool Jan. 31, and Londonderry Feb. 1, now

fully due at this port. Death of Judge Whitney.

BINCHAMTON, Thursday, Feb. 14, 1861.
The Hon. Vincent Whitney, formerly a member of the Assembly and Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, died here at 1 o'clock this morning.

Non-Arrival of European Steamers.

SANDY HOOK, Thursday, Feb. 14-11 p. m. There are as yet no signs of the steamship City of Baltimore or the steamship Africa, now both due off this point with later Liverpool dates. Weather thick and rainy. Wind blowing a gale from the east.

THE FRESHET.

The Albany papers fear that the freshet in that city will prove to be as great a calamity, as the one which occurred in 1857.

done above Albany.

Thoy.-The ice gave way opposite Troy at 11 o'clock on Tuesday night, with a thundering crash. It dammed up about a mile below that city, and, at 4 o'clock, raised the water within 21 inches of the flood

The loss in individual cases is small. The docks are submerged, and the basements of stores on River street are filled with water. The bells were rung, and alarmed the inhabitants, and by general attents alarmed the inhabitants, and by general attention to their interests in the removal of goods, the merchants suffered very little—some \$50 to \$100 apiece. Dumn & Kennedy, brewers, lose \$600 worth of beer. The lumber was saved; the lose probably not over \$1,000 altogether. The Rensedaer Iron Works were stopped by the freshet. The Troy and Greenbush Railroad stopped running. The basements of houses in the lower part of the city are submerged, and in some cases the first floor. People were taken out in boats. The merchants at Troy were generally prepared. The water this morning, was within eighteen inches of the mark of 1857. The ice started a few minutes before 11 o'clock last night.

The south-east corner of the Rensedaer and Savatoga Railroad Depot, on Green Irland, was torn away by

Railread Depot, on Green Island, was torn away by the ice. Loss from \$200 to \$200.

Bridges over the Tonswanda Creek, in the town of Schaghticoke, were carried away. Loss \$300.

Centre Island is wholly submerged. The Starbuck Works are on the island, and one end of the boiler-building is stove in. Probable loss \$400.

West Troy.—Four cami-boats were swept out of the Basin at West Troy, and passed down the river, lodging on the islands. Very little damage was done to lumber, it having been carefully goarded. All the front streets were flooded to a great depth, and a good deal of damage was done by flooding of stores, dwell-ings. Ac.

SCHENECTADY.—The Ice reached Schenectady from the west about midnight on Tuesday. It is piled up mountain high above the bridge, but was firm below at noon. On Wednesday the water fell rapidly after HOFFMAN'S FERRY.—The water of the river flowed

into the canal, and three canal boats were swept into the river. They are ledged on the islands. Hoosic Falls.-The bridge at Hoosic Falls was Hoosic Falls.—The bridge at Hoosic Falls was carried away on Taesday afternoon, about 4 o'clock. There were six or seven persons on the bridge at the time; all were rescued. One was carried down about two miles on the floating ice, and was rescued by a man who went out on the ice with a rope tied around his weist. A boy by the name of Gaffiney is supposed to be lost. Nothing has been heard of him since the budge was carried away with it.

Helbook River Railhoan.—The bridge at Stockport, five miles this side of Hadson, was torn away by the ice when it broke up in the Kinderhook Creek on Tuesday afternoon. The trains were obliged to go up from Hadson to Chatham, and so down to the city on the Boston Road. They will continue to do so until the bridge is rebuilt.

[By Telegraph.] RECEDING OF THE PRESHET. ALBASY, Thursday, Feb. 14, 1861.

During the night the water fell 17 inches, but is still high. The weather last night was frosty, and the probabilities are that the river is closing again.

The river is falling rapidly. The New-York Central Railroad Company will deliver down freight across the river to-morrow.

CONVENTION ON BEHALF OF THE INDIANS,-Mr. John Beeson, who has lectured a good deal on behalf of the remnant of the Indian race, has issued a call for a General Convention, to be held in Boston on the 20th and two following days of this month,

BROOKLYN ITEMS.

WELCOME VISITORS.-A number of the elergymen of Williamsburgh have recently been the recipients of agreeable visits from their friends and members of their congregations, which, being something more than friendly visits, are worthy of mention. On Tuesday evening the Rev. S. H. Meeker of the Reformed Dutch Church in Bushwick was waited upon by the members of his church, who, after spending a pleasant evening, "surprised" their pastor with a donation of \$150, On Wednesday evening the Rev. P. Weaver of the Grand street M. E. Church was similarly surprised with a present of gold amounting to \$75.

ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT OF THE BROOKLYN NOR-AL SCHOOL.—The Fifth Annual Commencement exercises of the Brooklyn Normal School, took place last night in the Academy of Music, before as large an audience as the building could conveniently accommodate, the principal portion being composed of the teachers of the public schools and their friends. About 74 o'clock the drop curtain was drawn up, and the fair forms of the graduates were presented to the view of the audience. The ladies were seated in lines across the stage, all attired in spotless white, while on either side, in front of the boxes, the members of the Board of Education,

of the boxes, the members of the Board of Education, and other prominent citizens, took their positions.

The Rev. Dr. Robinson opened the proceedings with a prayer, when Mr. T. W. Field made a brief statement explanatory of the objects of the school, and expressing the belief that all present would not only be pleased, but that they would be convinced that the Board of Education had performed their duty well.

Mr. J. W. Bolkley, Superintendent of the Public Schools, came forward and addressed the audience on the subject of Normal Schools, their rise and progress,

the subject of Normal Schools, their rise and progress, and the good they had already done and would con-tinue to accomplish. He appealed to the members of the Common Council, many of whom were present, to provide as liberal appropriations toward the cause of education as they did for fire and police purposes. Were the children now running about the streets prop-erly educated, there would be no need of policemen sing their clubs in bringing disorderly characters to

erly educated, there would be no need to peacetars using their clubs in bringing disorderly characters to terms, or of arresting youthful incendiaries. He boyed they would give liberally so that the system of education could be perfected. He closed by advising the graduates to struggle on, so that they might be better and better prepared to perform their duties.

The compositions of the graduates were read by the Rev. Mr. Studley, the Hon. F. A. Lambert, and the Rev. Dr. Buddington. They were respectively entitled "A Few Thoughts on the Times," "Authorship, or the Folly of Striving to Please Every One," "Old and New," "Secession," "Monoy," "Farewell," and stanzas upon "A Search for Happiness." All were creditable productions. That on "Secession" hit upon the events of the day in a satirical vein, and the sentiments, which were thoroughly Union, were frequently applanded.

The Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Field, introduced Mr. N. R. Collins, who, he said, would favor the antience with a song, and, as it was one with which all were familiar, he hoped they would join in the chorus. Mr. Norton then sang "The Star Spangled Banner," accompanied with music on the pinno, furious Irishwoman who pretends to be a lady, and why neither of them is either Irish or a lady, and why-ha! ha! ha! here you fall back and pretend to sleep, having an unmistakable premonition that a straight jacket of your exact measure is coming round the you'd better strangle your curiosity, dismiss the " House

which all were familiar, he hoped they would foll the chorus. Mr. Norton then sang "The Star Spangled Banner," accompanied with music on the pinno, and joined in chorus by the graduates and some of the spectators. At the conclusion of each verse, an American flag, susjended from the top of the stage, was waved to and fro, adding to the general effect. The audience manifested their approbation by repeated and hearty avalence.

hearty applause.

The Rev. Dr. Vinton delivered an address, in which The Rev. Dr. Vinton delivered an address, in which he made allusion to the composition on "Secession," and commended the sentiments contained therein. The reason why that noble flag, now floating over their heads, had grown alm, and its bright constellation divided, was, he contended, in consequence of the false system of education pursued by our brethren of the South in inculenting the pernicious dectrine of State rights, which now, after thirty years' work, had culminated in breaking up, apparently—but only apparently—this glorious Union. The reverend gentlemsn contrasted the ancient Roman and Athenian systems of education, the old and new systems of the present age. contristed the arcient koman and Athenma systems of education, the old and new systems of the present age, and spoke in terms of high commendation of the prin-ciple new adopted of teaching the gentler sex to form the minds of youth. In conclusion, he remarked that although this house (the Academy) was dedicated to all sorts of things, nothing mode agreeable could be witnessed here than that afforded on the present occa-

sion.

Addresses were also made by Mr. J. M. Van Cott, and Mr. C. P. Smith, President of the Board of Educa-

and Mr. C. P. Smith, President of the Board of Education. The latter presented diplomas to the following named graduates, and, in the course of his remarks, observed that the system of public-school instruction by ladies was first inaugurated in Brooklyn:

Graduate, 1861.—Misses L. B. Ambury, A. B. Barney, M. A. Benne, S. R. Bartol, S. D. Baylin, E. C. Browe, H. M. Cofni, S. A. Corwin, M. Cottler, C. L. Comingham, S. J. Cabel, J. Craus, A. Cuttis, P. Desleon, M. A. Dedge, E. J. Dunkley, J. C. Doane, C. L. Evans, H. A. Evans, A. B. Finn, M. A. Giegery, V. B. L. Glidenicers, D. M. Howar, M. J. Holman, J. B. Hedger, H. Hersa, M. M. Hydo, K. L. Hand, M. B. Imlay, M. H. Kemball, M. A. E. Kuabel, R. M. Kingsbury, F. A. Kneedend, M. A. Moyet, J. Michael, G. H. O'Neil, A. T. Phillips, H. C. Rogers, L. J. Storer, M. Sprague, E. S. Thornton, G. W. Terry, F. H. Tikr, W. H. Wells, M. A. Wilkinson, M. F. Delano, S. Henry, E. B. Dayckinck.

Mr. Smith stated that at the present time there were

Mr. Smith stated that at the present time there were 50,000 children in the public schools of this city.

The valedictory address was read by Miss Mary Ann

the proceedings, concluding with "Hail Columbia."

The benediction was pronounced by the Rev. Dr.
Farley, and the exercises terminated, all passing off in an agreeable and highly creditable manner.

Figure .—At 2 o'clock yesterlay morning a fire was discovered in the store-room of Samuel Wilde & Son's spice factory, on the corner of Aiuslie and Ninth streets, E. D. The whole inside of the building in which the fire originated was soon enveloped in flames, and the contents entirely destroyed. The firemen were successful in their ediorts to prevent the fire extending to the adjoining premises. It is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary, as no fire was used in that part of the building where it broke out, and the greatest care was always exercised to guard. used in that part of the binking where it broke out, and the greatest care was always exercised to guard against a conflagration. A large quantity of whole and ground spice was destroyed, and the loss on stock and building is estimated at from \$3,000 to \$4,000, which is fully covered by insurance in New-York and Brooklyn Companies.

At 10 o'clock yesterday morning a fire occurred in Me Wer M. Thirty cook sole manufactory. No. 102.

Mr. Wm. H. Thibit's cork-sole manufactory, No. 162 South First street. It was caused by sparks from the stove igniting the surrounding wood-work. By the prompt arrival and exertions of the Fire Department, it was soon extinguished. Damage, \$500; uninsured.

COUNTERPRIT BILLS .- Last evening, counterfei five-dollar bills on the Monson Hank, of Monachoustie, am threes on the Hartford Bank, of Hartford, Conn., were put is circulation. Several of the bills were passed at stores in Fulto-and Court streets.

BOND-STREET HOMEOPATRIC DISPENSARY .- This Dispensary is located at No. 59 Bond street. From the Sixth Annual Report of its founder and manager, Otto Fulgraff, M. D., we learn that during the past year 3,018 cases have been treated, of which 2,240 have been cared, 136 relieved, 102 result anknown, with but 16 deaths; 224 are under treatment; 9,132 prescriptions have also been given. Dr. Fülgraff has recently added to the stock of the Dispensary a new instrument, called "Laryngoscope" (the first one, we believe, made in this country), an instrument of recent invention, and of great importance in diseases of the throat, enabling the exact locality to be seen, and the nature and extent of the disease to be determined, hence giving great facilities in the management of diseases of that class.

Supper Drath.-Between 2 and 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon Officer Mason of the Fourth Ward found a man in South street suffering from the rupture of a blood vessel. He was removed to the Station-House and afterward placed in a carriage to be taken to the New-York Hospital. On the way thither he died. Coroner Jackman last evening held an inquest upon the body. Deceased appeared to be about 35 years of age, had dark, brown bair and whiskers, wore steel-mixed cassimere pantaloons, red flannel, white cotton, and hickory shirts, and plaid vest. It is supposed that the deceased was a tailor, living in Pitt street. The remains will be taken to Bellevue Dead-House, where they will remain a day or two to afford opportunity for

RELIFF FOR KANSAS,-The Senate of the Wisconsin Legislature has passed a bill to appropriate \$5,000 to Gen. Pomeroy, of Kansas, for the destitute poor of that State. The bill says that "the said Pomeroy shall make a report of the manner of expending the money to the Governor of this State."

Last no duced a come. "Central Park; or, The House with should have been called "The Two Doors," when to Kavortings of the Kitca. on Maids," written by Mr. John Lester Wallack, when it should have been compiled by some illustrious 'mknown, with no pretensions to dramatic knowledge or ability.

Mr. Lester has done, and can do, things so much, so very much better than this, that he will be one of the first to regret so weak an attempt. The first two acts of "The Veteran" proved to the public that Mr. Lester can write high comedy of a hight most exalted, when he chooses to take pains; and other efforts of his so far transcend , bis present production that it seems as if "Central Park" may have been written by Mr. Lester on a bet to mauufacture a five act comedy in five consecutive hours, with one hand tied behind him, a 56-pound damb-bell in each coat-tail pocket, one foot tied to the back of his neck, and he to jump twenty-seven four-foot hurdies between every two scenes. The play consists of a plot so utterly inextricable and bewildering that the Cretan Labyrinth was a schoolboy's " Fox and Geose" to it-a plot which surprises the audience in the first act; bewilders them in the second; makes them complacently nod their heads and think they've got it in the third; mystifies them in the fourth, and sends them forth into the streets at the end of the fifth, either drooling idiots or frantic maniacs a plot utterly incomprehensible by mortal man-a plot which begins in the middle, works both ways, and never gots to either end-a plot that you can't get into without immediately wishing you were out of, and that you can't get out of on any terms whatever-a plot that will ever pursue you in dreams, making your future sleep one wretched nightmare, and causing you to rise wildly in bed at ridiculous and unwonted hours, with hair standing in more directions than there ever were points to all the compasses that ever were, and demand furiously of the wife of your bosom why it is

remaining senses if possible. It is a play that depends wholly on funny incidents and pointed dialogue for what force it has. There is not a character in the whole affair. There is no individnality, and any two of the dramatis persone might change dresses and speak each other's lines, and not the slightest incongruity be observed.

that Mr. "Kerr Flamberry," meets a distracted lady on the ice who pretends to be Irish, and why he meets a

corner under charge of a keeper, and that on the whole

with two doors" from your mind, and preserve your

Still, there are occasional cowical incidents and frequent bits of smart, witty dialogue that amuse the audience; but until the whole affair is entirely remodeled it will have no more consistency, congruity, or ompleteness than a volume of Joe Miller spoken by a clever company in alternate jokes. Mr. Blake knew very little of his part, but was oc-

casionally funny. Miss Henriques, when she was natural, was good; when she attempted to be heroic, she was very bad. Miss Gannon was consistently good, and Miss Tree overacted and was thoroughly bad in every scene. Mesers. Lester, Norton, Reynolds, Young, and others, did all that in them lay to insure the success of the play. Some scenic discrepancies and failures materially marred the effect of the last scene, which was the

serve the purpose of the management for a week or so, until the new house is ready. Mr. Lester was called for, made a short speech, declaring himself the author, and announcing the play for

clous cutting down, no doubt the piece will be made to

THE LIGHT GUARD BALL .- The annual ball of the Light Guard, at the Academy of Music last night, was a military fets of unsurpassed brillir ce, and decidedly the most recherché affair of the seas. ". Under the direction of the various Committees, the arrangements were perfect, and everything pessed off to the entire eatisfaction of everybody concerned. Every year the Company have endeavored to make their festival un improvement upon the previous one, consequently the ast is generally conceded to be the best ever given.

The stage and parquette were arranged as nangl. The stage from the parquette was arranged to repre sent a large marquee, with hangings of blue, white, and gold, pendant from either side of which were several magnificent chandeliers. Upon a dias at the back of the stage was a ministure camp scene. With a twelve-pound howitzers, mounted on carriages, with ball, ammunition, boxes, caumers, sponges, and all complete. In front of the cannon was a stack of arms, with belts and cartridge-boxes hanging from the bave nets. In the center, upon a pedestal, was a statue of "Liberty," arrayed in the national colors. Just over

the statue were the words-

Light Guard, 1857." surmounted by the crest of the Company-a hand grasping a hatched-in letters of fire at the foot of the Goddess of Liberty stood, in all his majesty, a splendid specimen of the royal Bengal "Tiger"-the emblem of the guard. The platform in front was draped with the English and American flags. Tusleyel festoonery of blue and white gauze was arranged in front of the balconies and amphitheater. In front of the lower private boxes were stacks of arms on which were negligently hung cartrige boxes, sabres, belts, fatigue and dress caps. Upon the upper tier was perched a gilded eagle from whose beak was suspended to a line crossing the parquette, gauzy streamers of blue and white. The columns about the house were trimmed with the flags

The most noticable feature in the arrangement and decration of the house was the hundred and one petite cages, containing canary birds hung in everppart of the ball-room. The company flocked in early, and for two hours there was a continuous throng from the street to the dressing-rooms. In a little time the dress circle and second circle were crowded with people, while the part in the dance. Nearly all of the ladies were elegantly attired, and the rich uniforms of the military

men added greatly to the brilliancy of the scene. In the second and third tiers were stationed two of Dodworth's bands, which performed alternately marches and music for dancing. The warbling of the little birds scattered about the house, mingling with the music from the orchestra, produced an agreeable effect. Among the company we noticed many of the premi-nent military men of the First Division, and at a private collation to which they were invited in the Committee rooms, short and pithy speeches were made, and toaste drauk. Everything passed off pleasantly, and it was late before the ball broke up.

GIMNASTIC EXHIBITION AND CONCERT.-Last evening, a gymnastic exhibition and concert was given at.
Brady's Seventh Regiment Gymnasium, St. Mark's
Place. There must have been at least a thousand la-Place. There must have been a selected to thousand added to do and gentlemen present as spectators. The feats performed by the gentlemen of the Gymnasium were comprehended in the following exercises: Vaulting horse, inclined and peg pole, dumb-bells, parallel bars, double rings, serial flights, Indian clubs, single bar, la perche, ladders, fencing, broadsword and cane exercises, magic ladders, rack bars, double trapeze, posturing and tumbling, acrobatic feats, batoute leaps, nium. The music by the Seventh Regiment Be inspiring, and, with the creditable manner in which the gymnastic exercises were performed, elicited frequent and hearty plaudits. Another exhibition is to be given

Fires.—Yesterday afternoon a fire occurred on the fourth floor of the dwelling house No. 277 Eighth street in consequence of the carelessness of children purpose with matches. But little damage was sustained.